GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2858
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011
REGIONAL OFFICES OF IWAI
Das Shri Bhakta Charan

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to establish regional offices of Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) for the eastern region at Bhubneshwar for better coordination on National Waterways No. 5 and has allocated funds for implementation of the said waterways:

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of funds allocated for the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MUKUL ROY)

(a) to (c): The Geonkhali-Charbatia stretch of East Coast Canal along with Talcher-Dhamra stretch of Brahmani-Kharsua-Dhamra river system, Charbatia-Dhamra stretch of Matai river and Mangalgadi-Paradeep stretch of Mahanadi delta rivers (total length of 588 km) were declared as National Waterway-5 (NW-5) in November, 2008. However, no funds for the development of this waterway have been allocated during 11th plan period and the Planning Commission has suggested that the feasibility of development of the commercially viable stretches of this waterway be explored under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode with Viability Gap Funding (VGF).In a meeting with the stake holders river stretches of the waterway (ie Brahmani-Kharsua-Dhamra river system, Matai river and Mahanadi delta rivers) were identified as commercially more viable than the rest. Thereafter a proposal was submitted to the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) for consideration under their scheme for India Infrastructure Project Development Fund (IIPDF) and PPP Pilot Project Initiative under the ADB Technical Assistance which is being actively pursued by IWAI with them.

Opening of an office of Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) in Odisha would be considered at a suitable location at the appropriate time based on the likely time of commencement of the developmental works in National Waterway-5.